

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

 **Information Letter** 

FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

No. 205

Washington, D. C.

April 23, 1927

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Board to Meet May 26th

President Harry L. Cannon has called a meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Canners Association to be held at the Association's offices in Washington on Thursday, May 26. The meeting will open at 10 o'clock in the morning.

Decisions of U. S. Court of Customs Appeals

The U. S. Court of Customs Appeals has affirmed the judgment of the U. S. Customs Court in holding that imperfect or broken olives resulting from the manufacturing process where pitted and stuffed olives are prepared are subject to duty at 30 cents per gallon as pitted or stuffed olives. Importers had protested that they were properly dutiable at 20 cents per gallon as olives in brine or at 35 per cent ad valorem as vegetables.

In another decision the Court of Customs Appeals held that fresh halibut and salmon, packed in ice, caught from an American vessel in Canadian waters, and placed in a bonded warehouse in Canada and there sold to an American concern, were free of duty as products of American fisheries, and not dutiable at 2 cents per pound, as had been held by the Court of Customs.

Marketings of Fresh Tomatoes and Green Peas

In last week's Information Letter a summary was given of the domestic shipments and imports of fresh tomatoes during the first three months of 1926 and 1927, as compiled by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. To meet the request of canners desiring additional figures on the subject, the following table has been compiled from the records of the Bureau showing the quantity of fresh tomatoes of domestic and foreign origin marketed during the

months of January, February, March, April, May, November and December. The Bureau's records go back to 1924 for domestic shipments and to 1925 for imports.

	1924	Domestic Carloads	Bahamas Carloads	Cuba Carloads	Mexico Carloads
January	7	582	...	...	...
February		1,268	...	...	...
March		1,810	...	...	...
April		1,505	...	...	...
May		8,133	...	...	...
November		583	...	...	...
December		88	...	...	...
1925					
January		217	42	48	266
February		860	2	18	300
March		1,055	...	12	483
April		1,640	...	8	1,136
May		4,175	...	...	522
November		556	...	22	4
December		110	67	213	151
1926					
January		15	111	100	447
February		64	72	62	582
March		297	19	106	846
April		1,112	6	65	654
May		2,835	...	4	320
November		725	...	...	7
December		143	17	9	277
1927					
January		81	163	89	442
February		452	111	156	1,021
March		2,162	17	290	1,309

The marketings of domestic tomatoes during the first quarter of the last four years, and of Bahaman, Cuban and Mexican tomatoes during the same period of the last three years has been as follows:

	Domestic Carloads	Foreign Carloads
1924	3,640	...
1925	2,132	1,049
1926	366	1,874
1927	2,696	2,772

Beginning with April, 1925, the Bureau has likewise collected statistics on green peas, and in the following table are given the marketings of domestic and Mexican green peas for the months of January, February, March, April, November and December:

	1925	Domestic Carloads	Mexican Carloads
April		425	9
November		223	...
December		94	53
1926			
January		4	159
February		13	243
March		115	139
April		250	5
November		234	...
December		45	61
1927			
January		1	181
February		30	622
March		342	138

Canned Vegetables for Veterans' Bureau

The U. S. Veterans' Bureau is asking for bids, to be opened May 18, 1927, on the following items:

Beets, 578 doz. No. 2½ cans; 885 doz. No. 10 cans.
Beans, string, 1,080 doz. No. 2 cans; 2,491 doz. No. 10 cans.
Beans, green lima, 1,080 doz. No. 2 cans; 1,254 doz. No. 10 cans.
Corn, white, 6,796 doz. No. 2 cans.
Corn, Golden Bantam, 6,796 doz. No. 2 cans.
Tomatoes, solid pack, 1,080 doz. No. 2½ cans; 2,162 doz. No. 10 cans.
Tomatoes, standard, 1,464 doz. No. 10 cans.
Tomato puree, 1,464 doz. No. 10 cans.
Catsup, 3,886 doz. 14-oz. bottles.
Chili sauce, 3,886 doz. 14-oz. bottles.
Pumpkin, 477 doz. No. 10 cans.
Squash, 482 doz. No. 10 cans.
Sauerkraut, 382 doz. No. 2½ cans; 885 doz. No. 10 cans.
Okra, 578 doz. No. 2 cans; 659 doz. No. 10 cans.

Each article is for delivery not later than December 1, in various quantities, to Philadelphia, New Orleans, Chicago, and San Francisco. Copies of schedules on which to submit bids may be obtained upon application to the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, Washington, D. C.

Gives Advice to Home Canners

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has issued a press release on the canning of garden surplus, several features of which are of special interest to commercial canners. The industry has always stressed the importance of getting products into the can within the shortest possible time after they are gathered. On this point the Department states:

"Freshness is such an important factor in successful canning that the delay between the gathering of the vegetables by the farmer and getting them into the cans decreases the chances of a good home product. If you buy vegetables for home canning, it is often difficult to carry out the slogan 'Two hours from garden to can.'"

The press release emphasizes that "a steam-pressure canner is a necessary part of your equipment if you expect to can any vegetables except tomatoes, pickled beets and pimientos." These three products, it is stated, may be canned in a water-bath type of canner, but "all non-acid vegetables should be processed under steam pressure."

Canned Fish Output in 1926

Canned fish to the value of \$86,193,240 was packed in the United States and Alaska in 1926, according to the U. S. Bu-

reau of Fisheries. This is an increase of 6.6 per cent over 1925 and 23 per cent for the previous five-year average. The principal items of the 1926 pack were: Salmon, nearly 360,000,000 pounds, valued at \$56,219,000; California sardines, 100,477,000 pounds, valued at \$7,807,000; Maine sardines, 32,947,000 pounds, valued at \$6,727,000; canned tuna and tuna-like fishes, 20,429,000 pounds valued at \$5,282,000; shrimp, 10,364,000 pounds, valued at \$3,752,000; oysters, 6,207,000 pounds, valued at \$2,026,000, and canned clams to the value of \$1,965,000. Miscellaneous fishery products put up included shad and shad roe, alewives and roe; 4,179,000 pounds of other fish roe, valued at \$778,000; crabs, abalone, mackerel, and various other products.

The value of fishery by-products produced in 1926 amounted to \$12,133,000, a decline of \$2,467,198 as compared with 1925, according to the Bureau of Fisheries. The principal items included in this production are fish oil, meal, scrap, oyster shell products and the like.

British India Market for Canned Foods

Imports into British India of canned and bottled provisions in the fiscal year 1925-26 showed another big increase over those of preceding years, according to a report by the American consul at Calcutta.

Canned and bottled fruits were imported to the value of \$369,686, of which the United States supplied \$218,875. Canned fish imports were valued at \$1,176,544, and of these the United States furnished \$435,520. In the canned milk trade, however, the chief suppliers were the Netherlands (\$798,233), the United Kingdom (\$690,353) and Australia (\$481,315). The United States supplied only \$17,699 of the total imports valued at \$2,233,363.

Car Loadings

Because of a decrease in car loadings resulting from the strike of bituminous miners, the total loadings for the week of April 9 were 33,271 cars less than the preceding week. The total loadings were 959,474 cars, an increase of 30,131 cars above the corresponding week last year and of 41,074 cars over the same week in 1925.

"Cross Currents"

Because of the general interest of the canning industry in the subjects discussed by President H. W. Phelps of the American Can Company in his address at the Atlantic City Convention, this address has been issued by the Association in pamphlet form and a copy is mailed to each member with this week's Information Letter.